



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/567,225	02/03/2006	Tobias Helbig	DE030265	4180
24737 7590 02/27/2009 PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510				
EXAMINER				
LAI, DANIEL				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2617				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
02/27/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/567,225

Applicant(s)

HELBIG, TOBIAS

Examiner

DANIEL LAI

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 December 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7 and 9-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7 and 9-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 24 December 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to the argument that Jaszewski does not teach "wherein the first access point is adapted to build up a third communication channel to the second access point to coordinate a setting of the first and second communication channels; ..., wherein the first access point is adapted to establish the third communication channel to the second access point when the second access point is detected via at least one of a core network and a wireless channel; wherein the first access point is adapted to determine whether there is a first free channel and a second free channel; and wherein in case there are first and second free channels, the first access point is adapted to control a setting of the first and second communication channels on the basis of the first and second free channels", Examiner respectfully disagrees. Jaszewski discloses a first access point establishes a first connection to communicate with a first node, a second access point communicates with a second node through a second connection, and the first access point communicates with the second access points through a third connection when the second access point is detected (see cited sections in the rejection below). The second access point is detected by wireless signal being broadcast and received (wireless channel). Therefore, Jaszewski discloses the limitations "wherein the first access point is adapted to build up a third communication channel to the second access point to coordinate a setting of the first and second communication channels" and "wherein the first access point is adapted to establish the third communication channel to the second access point when the second access point is detected via

at least one of a core network and a wireless channel”. Jaszewski discloses detecting interference between two access points and determining for amount of communications conflict to generate a new set of channel assignments. A channel being used by one access point will cause interference if used by another nearby access point and therefore is not free. On the other hand, if the channel is not used by any access point, or has little to zero interference, then the channel is free and therefore can be assigned to an access point. Therefore, Jaszewski discloses the limitations “wherein the first access point is adapted to determine whether there is a first free channel and a second free channel” and “wherein in case there are first and second free channels, the first access point is adapted to control a setting of the first and second communication channels on the basis of the first and second free channels”.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jaszewski et al. (US 5,933,420, hereinafter Jaszewski).

Regarding Claims 1 and 7, Jaszewski discloses a wireless network system (col. 3, lines 11-16), comprising a first access point for providing a first communication channel to a first terminal col. 3, lines 33-45, where Jaszewski discusses a first access point communicates with network node using a first channel); a second access point for providing a second communication

channel to a second terminal (col. 3, lines 33-45); wherein the first access point is adapted to build up a third communication channel to the second access point to coordinate a setting of the first and second communication channels (col. 4, lines 41-63, where Jaszewski discusses access points communicate with each other, col. 5, lines 5-25, where Jaszewski discusses channel coordination); wherein the first access point is adapted to perform a detection for the second access point (col. 4, lines 41-61); wherein the first access point is adapted to establish the third communication channel to the second access point when the second access point is detected via at least one of a core network and a wireless channel (col. 4, lines 58-65, where Jaszewski discusses a communication path is established when a second access point is detected); Wherein the first access point is adapted to determine whether there is a first free channel and a second free channels, the first access point is adapted to control a setting of the first and second communication channels on the basis of the first and second free channels (col. 4, lines 1-7, col. 6, line 46-col. 7, line 35, where Jaszewski discusses access point determining channels signal strength and generate new set of channel assignments).

Regarding Claims 3 and 9, Jaszewski further discloses the first and second communication channels are wireless channels (col. 3, lines 33-37).

Regarding Claims 4 and 10, Jaszewski discloses in case there are no first and second free channel, the first access point is adapted to determine a first interference and channel usage map (col. 4, lines 41-48); wherein, in case there are no first and second free channels, the first access point is adapted to request a second interference and channel usage map from the second access point (col. 3, lines 35-37); wherein the first access point is adapted to determine an optimized channel lay-out on the basis of the first and second interference and channel usage maps, and the

first access point is adapted to control the setting of the first and second communication channels on the basis of the optimized lay-out (col. 6, line 48-col. 7, line 15).

Regarding Claim 5, Jaszewski further discloses a plurality of third access points is assigned to the first access point for coordinating communication channels to associated terminals and a plurality of forth access points is assigned to the second access point for coordinating communication channels to associated terminals (col. 3, lines 17-20 and Fig. 1, where Jaszewski discusses plurality of access points).

Regarding Claim 6, Jaszewski further discloses the first and second communication channels correspond to first and second frequencies in the ISM bands (col. 1, lines 30-34, col. 3, lines 40-45).

Regarding Claim 11, Jaszewski discloses a method of operating an access point of a wireless network (Abstract), the method comprising the steps of providing a first communication channel to a terminal (col. 3, lines 33-45); building up a second communication channel to another access point to coordinate a setting of the communication channel (col. 4, lines 41-63, where Jaszewski discusses access points communicate with each other, col. 5, lines 5-25, where Jaszewski discusses channel coordination); performing a detection for the other access point (col. 4, lines 41-65); establishing a second communication channel to the other access point when the other access point is detected via at least one of a core network and a wireless channel (col. 4, lines 58-65, where Jaszewski discusses a communication path is established when a second access point is detected); determining whether there is a first free channel (col. 3, line 59- col. 4, line 25, where Jaszewski discusses determining whether access points are using same channel); controlling a setting of the first communication channel on the basis of the first free channel in

case there is a first free channel (col. 4, lines 11-40, where Jaszewski discusses generating a new set of channel assignments to reduce near conflict); determining a first interference and channel usage map in case there is no first free channel and requesting a second interference and channel usage map from the other access point in case there is no first free channel (col. 5, lines 13-25, where Jaszewski discusses collecting signal strengths information, col. 6, lines 46-63). Jaszewski discloses determining an optimized channel lay-out on the basis of the first and second interference and channel usage maps and controlling the setting of the first communication channel on the basis of the optimized lay-out (col. 6, line 48-col. 7, line 35).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL LAI whose telephone number is (571)270-1208. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid can be reached on (571)272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. L./
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Lester Kincaid/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617